

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A combined slat and frame attachment system comprising:
~~a slat containing a support member placed longitudinally and securely fastened within said slat; a support member~~
~~said support member~~ support member having two or more pins- a pin extending outward from each end portion of said slat in the same general direction and in a plane perpendicular to said support member;
~~said pins having steps~~ said pin having one portion narrower than an end portion of said pin opposite of a portion of said pin fixedly attached within said support member;
~~said steps being cylindrical areas of narrowed diameter on said pins;~~
~~a frame having two or more framing members, the framing members having an attachment hole in each of the framing members limbs such that said slat is capable of being attached to and extends between said limbs;~~
~~said limbs each having attachment holes;~~
~~said attachment holes being aligned with and capable of receiving one of said two or more pins extending from each end portion of said support member coupling when said slat is attached to and extended between said limbs framing members together;~~
~~said attachment holes having receivers of an elastic material are disposed inserted in said attachment holes, said receivers having bores having bore holes and a retaining portion extending in the same general direction as said pins;~~
~~said bores bore holes having a bore hole diameter, the bore hole diameter decreasing in diameter in the direction of insertion of said pins such that inserting insertion of said pins expands an outer diameter of said receivers and tightens said receivers in said attachment holes in said limbs; fixing each of said receivers within the respective one of said framing members when said pin is inserted through one of said bore holes and said end portion of said pin extends through said retaining portion such that said pin is latched by said retaining portion;~~
~~said receivers having retaining rings; and;~~

~~said retaining rings being attached to said receivers such that when said pins are inserted in said receivers said retaining rings fit into said steps on said pins thereby keeping said pins securely attached to said receivers thereby securely attaching said slat to said frame.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said bores holes in said receivers are comprised of two or more receiver segments connected at one end with gaps between said segments such that said segments create an expandable cylindrical bore.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said support member is fixed in a slat is molded urethane slat.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The system of claim 4 3 wherein said support member is injection molded structural nylon.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The system of claim 3 wherein said support member is securely fastened within said slat by being encapsulated within said molded urethane slat.

Claim 7 (currently amended) A combined slat and frame attachment system comprising: a ~~molded urethane~~ slat comprising containing an injection molded structural nylon support member encapsulated within a molded urethane and a pin extending outward from each end portion of said slat placed longitudinally and securely fastened within said slat; ~~said support member having two or more pins extending outward from said slat in the same general direction and in a plane perpendicular to said support member and said support member having longitudinal ribbing;~~

~~said pins having steps a first end portion fixed within said slat, a second end portion opposite of said first end portion, and an intermediate portion extending from said first end portion to said second end portion, a step being formed between said intermediate portion and said second end portion;~~

~~said steps being cylindrical areas of narrowed diameter on said pins;~~

~~a frame having at least two framing members or more limbs such that said slat is capable of being attached to and extends between said limbs;~~

said limbs framing members each having attachment holes;
said attachment holes being aligned with and capable of receiving said two or more pins
when said slat is attached to and extended between said limbs framing members;
said attachment holes having receivers disposed inserted in said attachment holes;
said receivers having bores extending in the same general direction as said pins;
said bores in said receivers being comprised of two or more receiver segments
connected at one end with gaps between said segments such that said segments create an
expandable cylindrical bore such that;
said expandable cylindrical bore decreasing in diameter in the direction of insertion of
said pins such that inserting said pins expands said receivers and tightens fixes said
receivers in said attachment holes in said limbs; framing members and
each of said receivers having has a retaining rings; and, at an end of said receiver
said retaining rings being attached to said receivers such that when said pins are is inserted in
through said receivers said retaining rings fit into said second end of steps on said pins thereby
keeping said pins securely attached to said receivers thereby securely attaching said slat to said
frame extends through said retaining ring and said step fixedly latches said pin in said receiver
securing said slat to said framing member.

REMARKS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed comments in the Office Action dated May 4, 2005.

The claims have been amended to clarify the structure claimed, putting all of the claims in condition for allowance.

None of the references cited disclose, teach or suggest "receivers of an elastic material... disposed in ... attachment holes, said receivers having bore holes... such that insertion of said pin [extending from each end of a slat] expands an outer diameter of said receivers; fixing each of said receivers within... said framing member." Instead, the references cited by the Examiner use conventional fasteners for attaching framing members to slats, as distinguished in the background of the present application.

The amendments to the claims, now put the application in condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendments and indicate allowance of the claims that are now pending in this application.

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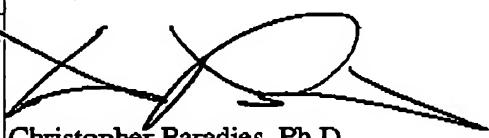


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Enclosures

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Respectfully submitted,



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